

said compressor-lever shield member configured to continuously widen from said arcuate offset member to a substantially broad tip means disposed at said shield member's leading, distal edge, and adapted to match size and configuration of the anatomical features of said patient's upper airway; and

61 said arcuate offset member configured to enable said shield member to reach said supraglottic region proximal to the base of said tongue and said vallecula[r] so as to provide sufficient leverage to enable said medical practitioner to compress and lift said tongue and to simultaneously lift said epiglottis in said pharyngeal cavity, while simultaneously flattening said tongue in said buccal cavity, for creating sufficient space in both said buccal cavity and said pharyngeal cavity to enable said medical practitioner to rapidly insert said supraglottic airway while minimizing tissue trauma and post-procedural patient discomfort.

---

Please amend Claim 10 as follows:

---

ad 10. (Amended) The apparatus recited in Claim 1, wherein said compression-lever shield member comprises a perimeter buffered edge to prevent tissue trauma as said shield member is advanced by said medical practitioner through said patient's pharyngeal cavity into said vallecula[r].

---

Remarks

In the instant Office Action, the Examiner relied upon Osborne (US Patent No. 412,409) to lodge a 102(b) rejection of Claims 1-2, and 8-10 and a 103 (a) rejection of Claims 3-7, and 11. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner and requests that